UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

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Civil Action No. 11-7379 (FLW)

Plaintiff,

v.

MARK D. PETTEGROW, et al.,

Defendants.

PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER IN AN ARBITRATION MATTER

THIS MATTER having come before the Court on **May 15, 2012**, for an initial conference pursuant to <u>Fed. R. Civ. P.</u> 16; Graham F. Baird, Esq., of Weisberg Law, P.C., appearing on behalf of Plaintiff, and William Foti, Esq., of Chierici, Chierici & Smith, P.C., appearing on behalf of Defendant Mark Pettegrow; and for good cause shown,

IT IS on this 17th day of May, 2012,

ORDERED that this matter is subject to compulsory arbitration pursuant to General Rule 201.1; and it is further

ORDERED that any motion to amend the pleadings or join new parties must be with leave of Court and filed no later than **July 27, 2012**, and made returnable by **August 20, 2012**; and it is further

ORDERED that fact discovery is to remain open through **August 31, 2012.** No discovery is to be issued or engaged in beyond that date, except upon application and for good cause shown; and it is further

ORDERED that the parties shall serve any affirmative expert reports no later than **September 28, 2012**; and it is further

ORDERED that the parties shall serve any rebuttal expert reports no later than **October 30, 2012**; and it is further

ORDERED that dispositive motions may be filed by no later than **November 21, 2012**, and made returnable by **December 17, 2012**. Counsel are to notify Chambers within five days of a decision on any dispositive motions if the decision does not resolve all issues in the case; and it is further

ORDERED that this civil action shall be referred to Arbitration after a ruling on dispositive motons; and it is further

ORDERED that in the event either party files a request for trial *de novo* following the arbitration, the parties shall notify the Court within five days of filing the *de novo* request, so that a schedule may be set for dispositive motions; and it is further

ORDERED that counsel will confer in an attempt to resolve any discovery or case management disputes before making such dispute the subject of an application to the Court. Any such dispute shall be brought to the Court's attention by letter, no more than five pages in total, setting forth the nature of the dispute and any efforts to resolve it. Any response shall be similarly limited to five pages in total and shall be submitted within forty-eight hours of the initial letter. No discovery motion or motion for leave to amend will be entertained absent leave of Court and counsel's full compliance with <u>L. Civ. R.</u> 37.1(a)(1); see also <u>L. Civ. R.</u> 16.1(f); and it is further

ORDERED that a telephone status conference will be held before the undersigned on July 31, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Defense counsel is to initiate the call; and it is further

ORDERED that a Settlement Conference will be conducted by the undersigned, at the Clarkson S. Fisher United States Courthouse, Trenton, New Jersey on **August 16, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. Counsel and parties with full authority to settle the case are to be present.** Any failure in this regard shall result in the imposition of sanctions; and it is further

ORDERED that five days before the Settlement Conference, each party is to submit to Chambers a confidential letter, on an *ex parte* basis, not to exceed five pages in total, summarizing the relevant facts, the respective legal positions, the status of the case, and the party's position of settlement, including any settlement discussions that have taken place in anticipation of the Settlement Conference. Plaintiff is to serve an updated demand on Defendant no later than 20 days prior to the Settlement Conference; and it is further

ORDERED that since all dates set forth herein are established with the assistance and knowledge of the parties, there will be no extensions except for good cause shown and by leave of Court, even with consent of all parties; and it is further

ORDERED that the Court may, from time to time, schedule conferences as may be required, either on its own motion or at the request of counsel; and it is further

ORDERED that failure to appear at subsequent conferences, or to comply with any of the terms of this Order, may result in sanctions; and it is further

ORDERED that any proposed confidentiality order agreed to by the parties must be accompanied by a separate statement showing specific good cause for the entry of the order. *See Panzy v. Borough of Stroudsburg*, 23 F.3d 772 (3d Cir. 1994); *Glenmede Trust Company v. Thompson*, 56 F.3d 476 (1995); <u>Fed. R. Civ. P</u>. 26(c); and <u>L. Civ. R</u>. 5.3; and it is further

ORDERED that the parties are advised that the Court has various audio/visual and evidence presentation equipment available for use at trial at no cost to the Bar. This equipment includes an evidence presentation system, which consists of a document camera and a projector. The projector may be used to display images which originate from a variety of sources, including television, VCR and personal computer. The document camera may be used to display documents, photographs, charts, transparencies and small objects. For further information, please contact the Courtroom Deputy Ivannya Jimenez at 609-989-2114; and it is further

ORDERED that counsel are invited to use the George H. Barlow Attorney Conference Room located on the third floor of the Courthouse Annex. The room is equipped with telephones, laptop access/printer, copier and fax.

LOIS H. GOODMAN United States Magistrate Judge